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## BULLETIN OF THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

### RECEPTION TO MEMBERS

On Monday evening, November sixth, a reception will be tendered by the Trustees to the members of the Museum and their friends on the occasion of the opening of the Egyptian collection and the exhibition of colonial silver and portraits.

Cards of invitation will be issued during the coming month.

### DEPARTMENT OF EGYPTIAN ART

The work of the rearrangement and installation of the Egyptian collection in the series of ten rooms in the new Fifth Avenue wing, which has been in progress for the past two years, is now reaching completion and the department will be opened on November 6th.

### EXHIBITION OF EARLY AMERICAN PORTRAITS

ARRANGEMENTS for the loan exhibition of portraits by early American painters which will be held conjointly with the exhibition of colonial silver in the loan exhibition gallery in Wing E from November 6th to December 31st are now about completed. The period of the silver and of the portraits will be about the same—namely, the eighteenth century; the paintings, however, will be strictly confined to the pre-revolutionary time. An effort has been made to secure such of these early portraits as have not been frequently exhibited, particularly those owned in New York City and its vicinity.

The names of many of the "limners" of the period have come down to us, but often no examples of their work and few or no details of their lives. Copley, by far the most talented, is the best known, and several books have been written dealing with his life and works. The exhibition will include about sixteen examples by this painter, belonging to various periods of his career from his early essays to the time of

his departure for England in 1774. Both because his style changed completely after his arrival in England and because his English work has no reference to America, none of his portraits done after 1774 will be shown. There will be a portrait of Cotton Mather, presumably by Pelham the engraver, the father-in-law and first teacher of Copley; and Blackburn, by whom he was influenced in his early work, will be represented by some half dozen canvases. There will also be several by Smibert, who is historically one of the most interesting. Of the rare Long Island painter, Feke, there will be at least one example.

The catalogue will contain a short historical account of these and other less prominent early portrait painters, who tried to satisfy the desire of the colonists to hand down their likenesses to posterity.

B. B.

### LECTURES

Owing to unforeseen circumstances, it has been found necessary to defer for the present the course of lectures on Egyptian Art which, as announced in the July BULLETIN, were to be given by Mr. Lythgoe in connection with the opening of the new Egyptian galleries of the Museum.

### THE CITY'S BUDGET EXHIBITION

In the Budget Exhibit, the Museum is now showing the additions made by the City to the Building, which now covers 119,000 square feet; the amounts received from the City; the amounts raised from other sources, which annually more than equal the City's appropriation; and the remarkable increase in the extent and value of the collections, the sum spent in 1910 for works of art being \$507,036.96. By means of charts and plans the Museum undertakes to show the importance of its place in the life of this City and the City's compensation for its investment past, present, and prospective.